



TRAFFIC SAFETY AND PARKING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, June 1, 2005 - 6:00 pm

San Bruno City Hall
567 El Camino Real
San Bruno, CA 94066

MINUTES

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS -

A. ROLL CALL

<u>TSPC Members:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
(Chair) Sol Weiner	X	
(Vice-Chair) John Giuseponi	X	
Peter Jalilie	X	
Doris Maez	X	
Stephen Pieraldi	X	

Staff in Attendance:

Merrill Buck, Public Works Department
Scott Munns, Public Works Department
Marc Catalano, Police Department
Jennifer Shapona, Public Works Secretary

Public in Attendance:

See attached "Sign-in Sheet"

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved for the April 6, 2005 meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was presented by Peter Jalilie, seconded by Stephen Pieraldi (M/Jalilie, S/Pieraldi: 5-0-0) Approved.

3. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL

Merrill Buck stated the City Council approved on May 10, 2005 the acceptance of the grant for the Sneath Lane Bicycle Lane installation and elimination of six hour parking on Sneath Lane. The project will be advertised in June and awarded in July and the work will begin in August or September. Both sides of Sneath Lane, from Skyline to El Camino Real, will be striped and deemed "No Parking" zones.

Peter Jalilie asked if it would be completed before the holiday season? Merrill Buck responded that there is an item going to the City Council on June 14 for approval of additional paving east of the El Camino Real/Sneath Lane Intersection Improvement Project, as this area is badly in need of paving. If the City Council approves the additional scope of work, then the City can revise the striping plan and extend the bike lane all the way to Huntington Avenue.

Peter Jalilie asked about the turn at the Post Office, right by the island and the parking lot exit from Lowe's. Merrill Buck stated that the City is proposing to eliminate the smaller of the two "pork chop" islands, contingent on the City Council approving the increased scope, permitting the southbound turn out of the Post Office and still prohibiting the northbound turn out of Lowe's parking lot. This will help traffic flow in and out of the Post Office. Scott Munns wanted to clarify that the original intent of the "pork chop" islands was to try to prevent the conflict between the left hand turns at that location.

4. OLD BUSINESS

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Merrill Buck stated the City staff received a request from the Skyline Park Homeowners Association regarding Police Department enforcement on Darby Place and Oxford Lane. City vehicle code prohibits parking on sidewalks and in front of either private or public driveways. The City staff concurrently received a letter of complaint from a resident that lives at 171 Darby Place regarding vehicles being parked in front of his driveway, thus blocking being able to get out of their driveway. The Fire Marshall had expressed concern that on Oxford Lane the parking issue has a potential for blocking emergency response vehicles, which require a 20-foot fire lane. The request is for the City to establish a red curb no parking zone adjacent to 171 Darby and 152 Oxford, where residents have a tendency to park perpendicular at the end of the cul-de-sac. Sol Weiner stated the City staff would recommend painting the curbs red.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPENED

Tom Loy, 130 Darby Place, stated parking is bad and people park their cars randomly all over the place. Double parking is out of control. In reference to Darby Place, there are 30 apartments and each unit gets a 2-car garage and there are nine townhouses that each have their own garage and a carport. There are 78 private off street parking spots for 39 units. At the head of Darby there are 6 parking stalls and to the left coming in there are 8 parking stalls, and at the end of the cul-de-sac, if it were striped properly the City could get 10-12 parking spots there also. This would give over 100 off street parking spaces. The residents need to use their own parking spaces and maybe if the City enforces some parking restriction it will motivate people to use them. There is no way that a fire unit can pull in to the bottom end of Darby and this is a safety issue.

Alex Davydov, 160 Darby Place, stated that the California vehicle code prohibits any parking in front of a public or private driveway. The police should ticket and tow away any car in front of someone else's driveway. The homeowner should be able to park in front of their own driveway if they want to. Suggested looking into permit parking as an option, so owners can park in front of their own driveway. Also, there is a sign posted "Parallel Parking Only" and the Home Owner's Association told us this sign belongs to

the City. The Police Department said it belongs to the HOA. Can we find out about this?

Rita Sorkina, 160 Darby Place, stated perpendicular parking is not good, but in the owner's own driveway they should be allowed to park there.

Mike Gutierrez, 171 Darby Place, stated there are several driveways along the side where the depth of the driveway from the garage door to the curb is anywhere from 10 to 15 feet. If the resident parks their car there, the car will project out into the street very little if at all. If the City allows parallel parking there, a vehicle could possibly project into the street 5 or 6 feet. He talked to Merrill Buck about striping the west side of Darby Place. (Brought a map of the affected area.) He has people parking right behind his car in his driveway and the police can't give out 40 tickets for all the vehicle violations, so they feel handcuffed. We don't want people parking perpendicular and blocking everyone in the street, so we thought the striping might help solve this problem. There are faded lines existing at the location, but the City isn't sure if they put them there or the HOA. Merrill Buck commented that the City is looking at the parking policy of stalls on a private street; the City will look at public street marking and would look at creating parking on private parking areas with the Association and offering a no fee encroachment permit to do the work, if the Association can propose a parking plan. This is actually a separate issue to the red zone that is being proposed tonight.

Mike Albertin, 11 Darby Place, stated that he wants to be clear about what areas are going to be painted red. He allows visitors to park behind his garage, sometimes perpendicular, and wants to know if this is legal or not. Sol Weiner replied that they are only taking information at this time, so they can address his question later.

Paul McKinnie, owner of 152 Oxford Lane, would like to define where the red curbs will start and stop in reference to his apartments. Three of the four units have a parking space designated, but the last unit only has a small space. He is concerned that the tenant for that unit will be ticketed for blocking the sidewalk when using their parking space just because of the size. Merrill Buck stated 20 feet would start where the curb transitions from a driveway to the top of the curb. Merrill Buck stated that the Police Department is asked to enforce the blocking of a sidewalk or driveway, so if the resident parks in front of their garage and the sidewalk in front is being blocked due to the small size, it is still a violation.

John Morch, 190 Oxford Lane, commented that residents need the red zones, as it is not a normal street up there. (Resident introduced pictures of the location to the TSPC members.) Sidewalks are not standard sidewalks and residents just walk up the middle of the street, as it is very relaxed. Parking is at a minimum there and the townhouse parking is premium. He agrees with the red zones, but not with ticketing residents.

Sol Weiner asked if the TSPC Committee members had any comments and they did not. Merrill Buck asked if the Homeowners Association had met with the Police Chief regarding this issue. Mike Gutierrez stated he had written a letter on behalf of the Homeowner's Association to the Police Chief.

Rita Sorkina, 160 Darby Place, stated that on May 26, the HOA had a meeting and brought up the issue of perpendicular parking. The HOA said they would be writing a letter to the Police Department. She would like to request the police to come to the location at night when all the cars are there, instead of during the day. Sol Weiner suggested the HOA meet with the Police Department to discuss the parking and ticketing issue.

Stephen Pieraldi asked if any of the residents were opposed to the proposed red zones at 171 Darby and 152 Oxford.

Rita Sorkina, 160 Darby Place, was opposed to taking another 20 feet of parking. She asked how this amount was decided. Merrill Buck responded that the 20 feet was based on the amount needed for a fire truck to get through if needed and it only eliminates two parking spaces. If the HOA came forward with a striping plan, then the City may be able to do away with the red zone. The removal of the red zone would have to go through the City Council.

Stephen Pieraldi stated the TSPC should to hear from the HOA Committee. Even if the red zone is temporary, we still need a plan of action from them in order to bring it before the City Council. The City's permit plan on Huntington Ave. was developed by a TSPC Ad Hoc Committee and City staff and had cost offsets that were paid by residents. Scott Munns commented that the enabling ordinance for the permit-parking program was for transit related issues, so it would not apply to this problem. Another policy would have to be implemented. Stephen Pieraldi stated the TSPC could approve the red zones and then the HOA could come to us with a plan to review and we could move ahead from there.

Doris Maez stated the red zone is important due to the need for emergency access and then the Committee can make a plan from there. Peter Jalilie agreed that the red curb needed to be done now for the short term. John Giuseponi stated that he'd like to see the red zones go in right now and an agreement with the HOA and the Police Department within two weeks to get this going.

Mike Gutierrez, 171 Darby Place, stated his father is the president of the HOA and the biggest challenge is defining what the ruling is for the parking there and what it comes down to is the definition of public versus private parking. Sol Weiner asked if the HOA has CCR's. Mike Gutierrez stated they do, but they do not define parking issues. Sol Weiner commented that the CCR's should redefine parking.

John Giuseponi asked Marc Catalano if the Police Department is aware of the problem and how does the City find out whom the authority is on this issue. Marc Catalano responded that the police have met with representatives of the HOA and at the last meeting met regarding the striping plan that was agreed upon a few months ago. Since those meetings, the Police Department has received the letter from the HOA and the majority voice is saying to enforce the rules. John Giuseponi asked if the striping plan was accepted. Merrill Buck responded that the meeting was about the private striping plan, which was given to Mr. Gutierrez and he is now developing that. Once the City staff approves the plan, we would give him a permit to implement the striping. It is not the City's responsibility in defining the public space. The "No Parallel Parking" sign is posted on a City light pole, which means it's in the City right of way and belongs to the City. The sign wordage should be based on what the residents are looking to enforce, such as double parking or blocking driveways. The City has a "hands off" approach with private property but when violations occur, the Police Department has to get involved.

John Morch, 190 Oxford Lane, asked what the law states regarding blocking your own driveway. Marc Catalano responded that any public driveway couldn't be blocked, including your own. The driveway approach is on City right-of-way.

Sol Weiner made a motion to close the Public Comment Period and was seconded by Peter Jalilie. (M/Weiner, S/Jalilie: 5-0-0) Approved.

Public Comment Period Closed

Sol Weiner suggested acceptance of painting the 15 feet of red curb red adjacent to 171 Darby Place and 20 feet of red curb adjacent to 152 Oxford Lane and asked for a vote from the Committee. Stephen Pieraldi made the motion to accept the recommendation to paint the red zones with the assurance that the HOA will come back to the TSPC with a decision. Peter Jalilie seconded the motion. (M/Pieraldi, S/Jalilie: 5-0-0) Approved.

Scott Munns acknowledged that the information discussed in the meeting would be included in the staff report to the City Council. Sol Weiner urged the HOA to come up with a plan as soon as possible. Scott Munns asked the Street Department staff about the installation of the "No Parallel Parking" sign and there was no recollection of City staff installing them, so they can be taken down. Marc Catalano concurred that the signs could be taken down.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

7. REPORT ON ALL STAFF-LEVEL TRAFFIC RELATED ISSUES OR ACTIONS -

A. Sol Weiner requested the Cypress Avenue speed issue be re-addressed and put back onto the agenda. Stephen Pieraldi asked where City staff is with this issue. Merrill Buck responded the next step is getting the item to the City Council. City staff is preparing distribution of a survey to the residents on Cypress to note whether they support the speed hump installation or not. With the survey will be a description of where the speed humps are to be placed. Staff has also been putting out traffic counters on the 100 and 200 blocks. The goal is for this to go before the Council in July.

B. Red curbing in front of the fire hydrants has been completed.

D. Stephen Pieraldi asked for an update from City staff regarding possible traffic issues that may be coming in the near future. Merrill Buck responded City staff is working on this still, due to ongoing staff shortage.

8. REPORT OF COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES -

None

9. ADJOURNMENT -

Motion: To adjourn the Traffic Safety and Parking Committee (TSPC) meeting until it's next regular scheduled meeting on July 6, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

(M/Weiner, S/Pieraldi): 5-0-0 - Approved. Meeting Adjourned, 7:30 pm.